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The Changing Heart

Wyatt Sawyer

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The Changing Heart

Request sermon: a question - "Why is it so hard to get ^{taught} people to repent!"

Int. Lesson involves 4 areas: 1. The Need. 2. The Definition. 3. The Problem. 4. The Solution. to!

I The Need for Repentance.

A. Seen in God's Great Plan for Man.

1. God's plan provides a happy - prosperous life on earth for all men, and an eternal home of place + rest in Heaven. Ps. 24:1-5. Jas. 1:17. Ps. 23:6. Eccl. 2:27.

Example 2. These blessings are conditional upon man's faithfulness to God. Deut. 6:4-13a.

3. Sin or transgression (disobedience) shuts off God's favor, grace + blessings (but NEVER His LOVE). Isa. 59:1-4.

4. God's blessings return to the sinner only after he repents. Isa. 55:7-9. Caution: Prov. 14:12.

NEED: GRACE. SIN. DEATH. REPENTANCE. FORGIVENESS. LIFE. BLESSINGS.

II The Definition of Repentance. N.T.

A. Greek: METANOEO - "to change one's mind and purpose."
"a change for the better." a mental adjustment.

B. Biblical: II Chron. 7:14. Forsake the wrong thoughts and wrong ways. Return to the right way. Rom. 2:4. God's goodness. 1:17.

1. Fortune
2. Fame
3. Power.

(2)

II Sam. 11+12.

III The Problem of Repentance.

A. Illustration: David, the King of Israel.

1. David became an adulterer. II Sam. 11:1-5. Child!

a. Why didn't he repent?

1. Didn't know it was wrong? He knew! ^{as he}
2. Didn't care it was wrong? ^{not as much} ^{temptation of} ^{power!}
2. Cared about his reputation and influence. ^{he was not honest}

answer: He did not repent because he knew better. ^{with himself! Dishonesty!}

one sin leads to another:

2. David became a Schemer. II Sam. 11:6-13. Failed.

a. Why didn't he repent?

1. Thinking more of SELF than others. Selfish!
- (Selfish people do not repent?) ^{anger}
2. Did not take his problem to God. Left God out!

3. David became a Murderer. II Sam. 11:14-25.

a. Why didn't he repent? a Liar too! V. 25.

1. He was in the SIN syndrome. Too far! Jer. 1:13-15.

answer: His attention was on self, worldly things and off of spiritual things. ^{Serious trouble} ^{II Sam. 12:1-14.}

RABBI!
ANNON.

FINALLY: 4. David Repents and returns to Righteousness. 12:1-14.

a. Nathan tells a story. V. 1-4. a terrible injustice!

b. David's righteous indignation was great against "that sinful man!" V. 5. Oblivious to himself!

c. The TRUTH brought repentance to David. V. 7-12.
Penalty: Shame. Disgrace. Humiliation. Acorn + ridicule!

d. True repentance produces confession and a return to God + righteousness. V. 13.

(over)



IV The Solution of Repentance not always easy. (3.)
A. Repentance is as necessary to get rid of SIN today
as it was in David's day!
B. Some N.T. passages which apply directly to us today.
1. Lk. 13:3. Repent or perish!
2. Lk. 24:46-47. applies to all sinners.
3. Acts 2:38. Why repent? a. Jesus says so! Lk. 15:7.
b. Forgiveness of sins!
c. So peace of mind, happiness, hope + joy. 3,000 did!
4. Acts 17:30-31. Why repent? ans. To prepare for the Judgment.
5. II Pet. 3:9. God's love never dimin and
sincere repentance is never too late!
Inv. Ill. Prodigal Son. Grievously wrong. "Came to himself."
"I have sinned" "I will arise + go to my father." Repenting.
Ill. Bro. _____ obeyed the gospel. Shortly, his
mother died. He went into shock! How long last?
25 yrs! Curt + negative toward me 3 yrs. HE went to hospital.
Called for me. a changed person! Soft, gentle, kind + spiritual.
Said: "I don't know what happened to me - I have been
shamefully wrong for a long time! I am very
sorry. Please ask the church to forgive me and
pray for me. I will do well when I get out
of here." He did until he died! Great credit to a
deeply spiritual wife - loving, patient + sympathetic. God also!
Ill. Jim Parrish. Partially in Denton. "Bible knew."
If you not a Christian - why won't you repent + obey? Acts 2:38.
The truth?
What condition is your heart in today? Heavy? Sad? Sin?
why not confess sin + get it over with.
Place membership!
Jas. 5:16. 10-30-77
Bob Hane P.M.
M + 10-30-77 A.M.